

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 13-24 of the specification as filed with the following rewritten paragraph:

Carbon bonding of this type exhibits the following advantageous features:

- Significantly cheaper to produce.
- Firing can be carried out at much lower temperature in order to develop the full carbon bonding network from the carbon bond precursor. In general the filters have to be fired at a temperature in the range of from 500 °C to 2000 °C, preferably 500 °C to 1000 °C.
- Significantly lower superheat is required.
- Low thermal mass.
- Better thermal shock resistance.
- Contamination free.